

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A nucleic acid primer is bound to a soluble carrier macromolecule, a multitude of primer molecules thus being carried by each carrier macromolecule, and hybridisation of the primer to a template followed by extension of the primer to replicate the template in complementary form is carried out as part of a PCR procedure or other amplification, or to form an extended primer of greater hybridisation affinity. A second primer used in the amplification may also be bound to a carrier macromolecule.